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September 2, 1998

Federal Communications Commission
1276 Fairfield Rd.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325-7245

*WT Docket #
98-143*

SUBJECT: Realignment of Amateur Radio.

As has been noted in many Amateur Radio Publications: Amateur Radio has declined to a dangerous level. One of the most prevalent reasons is the fact that MORSE CODE has become a deterrent. Granted, there are those who still prefer the use of this means of communication, but we must face the fact that Morse Code is no longer used by any of the Military Services and if one listens to the HF Frequencies, they will find very little being used. Most of the European countries have lowered their code requirement. What is the solution?

There are many of us that are members of the Amateur Radio Relay League that favor their version in the September issue of their publication--the QST. It does not take away any privileges that have already been earned by all classes. Yet, it proposes a wider use of the HF Bands which is what everyone is actually after. If these bands are not kept busy, we can look to lose some of those frequencies as Guatemala has already set the precedence by giving the 70CM band to land mobile stations. It has been a constant fight to keep little "LBO's" from getting any of our Amateur Frequencies in the United States.

There is a consensus here in the Middle Georgia Area that the ARRL proposal is the way to go, as it does not take away any privileges from anyone and it would certainly keep the Amateur Bands busier than they are today.

Let me say that I am only a Technician-Plus class operator and it would benefit me, but at my age (83), one never knows how long I will be around to enjoy Amateur Radio.

One point, I would like to make is the fact that Amateur Radio has been the back-bone of EMERGENCY SITUATIONS. Unless something is done in the immediate future, there will not be any Amateur Radio Operator around to help.

Anthony J. Rossano-KE4FFY

CopyTo: FCC
ARRL
S.E. Director

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From: "Nathaniel Jones. K8DJE" <nate@greene.xtn.net>
To: FCCMAIL.SMTPNLM("tenten-l@lehigh.edu")
Date: 9/7/98 7:39pm
Subject: MORSE CODE IS NOT DEAD OR OBSOLETE.....

BEING RETIRED U.S.NAVY I SUBSCRIBE TO THE WEEKLY ISSUES OF NAVY TIMES, AND WHEN I READ THE EMPLOYMENT SECTION I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE. I TOOK IT TO MY FRIEND(KF4YRT) AND HAD HIM SCAN IT AND EMAIL IT TO ME SO I COULD EMAIL IT TO YOU.

IT SEEMS THAT LATELY THE FCC AND ARRL THINK THAT MORSE CODE IS DEAD AND OBSOLETE AND WANT TO ELIMINATE IT FROM AMATEUR RADIO QUALIFICATIONS. THE FBI SPECIFY THAT AN APPLICANT MUST BE ABLE TO COPY 18-20 GROUPS PER MINUTE AND HAVE (FCC ARL) FCC AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXTRA CLASS AND KNOW "Q" SIGNALS. IF IT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE FBI, I THINK IT IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS. I ONLY HOPE THAT THE FCC AND ARRL WILL TAKE TIME TO RECONSIDER THEIR MORSE CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR HAM RADIO AFTER READING THIS ARTICLE.

73.

JONESY.

K8DJE(25 WPM MORSE CODE OPERATOR)
GREENEVILLE, TN

CC: B7.B7(BCROSS),FCCMAIL.SMTPNLM("mtracy@arrrl.org")

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98-143*

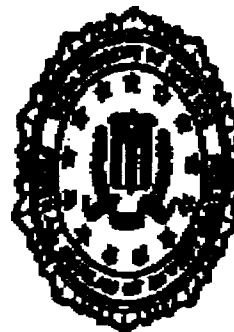
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Federal Bureau of Investigation



The FBI is seeking experienced Communications Analysts (Radio Operator) to work two rotating shifts. Requirements for the position include experience with voice, FSK, and packet communications; a proficiency of Morse code at 18-20 groups per minute or Extra Class FCC ARL; knowledge of radio theory, Q signs, and experience in using radios and related equipment. Positions are located in rural Virginia. Salary range is \$32,457 to \$61,190. Entry level salary will be based on skills and experience. Related military experience beneficial but not mandatory.

Send resumes to: Attn: Personnel, P.O. Box 1077, Stafford, VA 22555. Candidates must be a US citizen and consent to a complete background investigation, polygraph, and drug test.

The FBI is an Equal Opportunity Employer.